This has been done with a view to, *inter alia,* bring in greater diversity among newspapers and periodicals, bring National dailies to International standards and provide more economical and easier access to foreign scientific, technical and specialist magazines, journals and periodicals.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise, in view of (c) above.

Disinvestment of PSUs

*2. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of public undertakings under various Ministries, Ministry-wise;

(b) the total number of PSUs in respect of which decision has been taken to disinvest them and proceeds realized after completing the process of disinvestment/sale;

(c) the number of PSUs in respect of which a decision has been taken to disinvest but the process not yet completed/proceeds not yet realized after the sale/disinvestment; and

(d) the number of PSUs still with Government and the steps taken to improve their management and functioning?

THE MINISTER OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE) : (a) The Ministry-wise list of Central Government enterprises as on 31-3-2001 is given in Appendix I of the Public Enterprises Survey, 2000-2001 (Vol. I) which has been laid on the Table of the House on 7-3-2002 and is a published document. This list does not include the companies like—Modern Food Industries (India) Ltd., BALCO, Lagan Jute Machinery Company Ltd. which were privatised before 31-3-2001. Out of the companies listed in the Survey, the CMC Ltd., HTL Ltd., Hindustan Zinc Ltd., Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Ltd., Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd. and Paradeep Phosphates Ltd. have also been privatised.

(b) The process of disinvestment in the following 12 Public sector enterprises has been completed and the proceeds realised :—

(i) Modern Food Industries (India) Ltd.

(ii) BALCO

(iii) CMC Ltd.

(iv) HTL Ltd.

(v) Lagan Jute Machinery Company Ltd.

(vi) IBP Ltd.

(vii) Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd.

(viii) Paradeep Phosphates Ltd.

(ix) Hindustan Zinc Ltd.

(x) Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Ltd.

(xi) India Tourism Development Corporation (11 hotels)

(xii) Hotel Corporation of India Ltd. (3 hotels)

(c) In case of the following 31 PSUs, decision for disinvestment has been taken but the disinvestment process has not yet been completed :—

1. Air India Ltd. (AI)*
2. Balmer Lawrie and Co. Ltd.
3. Bharat Opthalmic Glass Ltd.
4. Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (BPCL)
5. Braithwaite and Co.
6. Burn Standard and Co.
7. Engineers India Ltd. (EIL)
8. Engineering Project (India) Ltd. (EPIL)
9. Hindustan Cables Ltd. (HCL)

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*The process has not been started again after there was no response for the earlier sale.

10. Hindustan Copper Ltd. (HCL)
11. Hindustan Organic Chemicals Ltd. (HOCL)
12. Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (HPCL)
13. Hindustan Salts Ltd.
14. Indian Airlines Ltd. (IA)*
15. Madras Fertilizers Ltd. (MFL)
16. MECON Ltd.
17. Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India Ltd. (MMTC)
18. National Fertilizers Ltd. (NFL)
19. National Aluminium Company Ltd. (NALCO)
20. National Instruments Ltd.
21. Shipping Corporation of India Ltd. (SCI)
22. Sponge Iron India Ltd. (SIIL)
23. State Trading Corporation of India Ltd. (STC)
24. Tungabhadra Steel Products Ltd. (TSPL)
25. Tyre Corporation of India Ltd.
26. Bharat Heavy Plates and Vessels Ltd. (BHPV)
27. NEPA Ltd.
28. Instrumentation Control Valves Ltd. (ICVL)
29. India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) (remaining hotels)
30. Hotel Corporation of India Ltd. (remaining hotels)
31. Fertilizer and Chemicals Travancore Ltd. (FACT)

In case of Jessop and Co. Ltd., though the strategic partner has been selected, since the company has been referred to BIFR, the disinvestment process could not be completed and the proceeds have not yet been realised.

(d) As per the Public Enterprises Survey 2000-2001 (Vol. I) published by the Department of Public Enterprises, there were 250 Central Public Sector Enterprises as on 31-3-2001. Some of the general steps taken by the Government to improve their management and functioning, include professionalisation of the PSU Boards, periodic performance review meeting by the administrative ministries, reduction of surplus manpower through VRS, technology upgradation, organisational and capital restructuring including formation of joint ventures etc. The concerned Administrative Ministries/Departments are taking necessary action in this respect.

Disposal of surplus land of VSNL

*3. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering floating a separate company to dispose of surplus land available with the VSNL;

(b) whether any agreement has been reached with the new management of VSNL;

(c) whether permission to float a new company will have to be taken from US Securities and Exchange Commission; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) to (d) The Agreement entered into by the Government with the Strategic Partner of VSNL envisages the demerger of identified surplus land into a separate new company pursuant to a scheme of arrangement in terms of provisions of Section 391—394 of Companies Act, 1956. The Strategic Partner has undertaken that it shall take and cause to be taken all necessary measures/steps, which would include any legal formalities that may be necessary, for implementation of the scheme of arrangement.

National Judicial Commission

*4. SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to form a National Judicial Commission for making appointments in Judiciary; and